

HOUSE BILL 3039  
By Matheny

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7, Chapter 86, relative to providing emergency communications districts the necessary authority to meet homeland security requirements and be self-supporting.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-86-102, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection:

(e) The general assembly furthers finds that the interests of homeland security require that counties and cities, acting through emergency communications districts, meet requirements for interoperability in communications, and that the districts have the necessary authority and ability to pay related costs, including those for dispatching services, and such other activities authorized pursuant to law.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-86-108(a)(1)(A), is amended by deleting the first sentence of the subdivision and substituting instead the following:

The board of directors of the district may levy an emergency telephone service charge to be used to fund the 911 emergency telephone service.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-86-108(a)(2)(A), is amended by deleting the second sentence of the subdivision.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-86-306(a), is amended by deleting subdivision (11) in its entirety and redesignating the remaining subdivisions accordingly.

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-86-303(d)(1), is amended by deleting the language "twenty-five percent (25%)" and substituting instead the language "forty percent (40%)".

SECTION 6. The Tennessee advisory commission on intergovernmental relations (TACIR) is hereby requested to give priority to conducting a comprehensive study of statutory

language in title 7, chapter 86 that relates to "lines", and any other references that TACIR deems related, and to make recommendations to the general assembly for remedial legislation in 2005, if deemed appropriate, so that the intent of the law is maintained consistent with new and evolving telecommunications technology, which intent is declared to be that each unique pathway to the emergency 911 system pays a fair share, regardless of the media or technology through which a request for emergency assistance is delivered to a public safety answering point (PSAP).

SECTION 7. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.